

Release - Immediate.
Office of Information, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

CHANGES IN MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS.

New Open Seasons Effective on October 15.

Washington, D. C. The United States Department of Agriculture announces the promulgation of amendments of the migratory bird regulations, to be effective on and after October 15, 1917.

One of the changes permits migratory game birds to be hunted from half an hour before sunrise to sunset during the open season, subject, however, to the provisions of State laws restricting shooting during that time.

Other changes in the open seasons are as follows:

In the States now having an open season from September 7 to December 20--Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and Idaho--the open season is changed to September 16 to December 31, both days inclusive. All of these States, with the exception of South Dakota and Wisconsin, recently amended their laws by opening the season on September 16 or later and closing it on December 31 or earlier. In South Dakota and Wisconsin the season closes on December 20 in accordance with the laws of those States.

The open season in eastern Oregon and Washington and in Nevada and Pennsylvania is also September 16 to December 31. The open season, October 1 to January 15, is unchanged in Rhode Island, Connecticut, that portion of New York known as Long Island, New Jersey, Utah and that portion of Oregon and Washington lying west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains, which constitute the balance of the northern zone.

In response to numerous inquiries the Department announces that the migratory bird regulations are not to be construed to authorize the hunting of migratory birds at a time when it is unlawful to hunt them under State laws.

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